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Claims

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1-27. Previously canceled.

28. (previously presented) A method implemented in a mobile communication device comprising the steps of:

receiving signals at the mobile communication device from a supporting exchange where the signals contain predetermined locations for one or more designated geographical areas;

storing, in the mobile communication device, the one or more designated geographical areas;

determining, by the mobile communication device, when the mobile communication device is within one of the one or more designated geographical areas;

preventing activation of an audible incoming call indicator in the mobile communication device while the mobile communication device is within one of the one or more designated geographical areas including:

receiving at the mobile communication device a first signal transmitted from the supporting exchange while the mobile communication device is within one of the one or more designated geographical areas, the first signal conveying that the one of the one or more designated geographical areas comprises an area of high communication traffic; and

generating, at the mobile communication device in response to receipt of the first signal, a prevent activation control signal utilized within the mobile communication device to prevent activation of the audible incoming call indicator contained in the mobile communication device upon an incoming call request received by the mobile communication device from the supporting exchange.

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- 29. (previously presented) The method of claim 28 further comprising the step of receiving at the mobile communication device location information for a first high communication traffic area wherein use of audible incoming call indicators is restricted.
- 30. (previously presented) A method implemented in a mobile communication device comprising the steps of:

receiving signals at the mobile communication device from a supporting exchange where the signals contain predetermined locations for one or more designated geographical areas;

storing, in the mobile communication device, the one or more designated geographical areas;

determining, by the mobile communication device, when the mobile communication device is within one of the one or more designated geographical areas; and

preventing one or more outgoing calls from the mobile communication device while the mobile communication device is within one of the one or more designated geographical areas including:

receiving a first signal at the mobile communication device transmitted from the supporting exchange while the mobile communication device is within one of the one or more designated geographical areas, the first signal conveying that the one of the one or more designated geographical areas comprises an area of high communication traffic; and

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generating, at the mobile communication device in response to receipt of the first signal, a control signal utilized in the mobile communication device to prevent the mobile communication device from initiating any transmissions to the supporting exchange as part of one or more outgoing calls in response to receipt of the first signal and in response to a user input associated with an attempted initiation the outgoing call.

- 31. (previously presented) The method of claim 30 further comprising the step of receiving at the mobile communication device location information for the high communication traffic area wherein outgoing calls are restricted.
- 32. (previously presented) The method of claim 28 wherein the step of receiving at the mobile communication device a first signal comprises receiving the first signal via a wireless transmission from the supporting exchange.
- 33. (previously presented) The method of claim 30 wherein the step of receiving at the mobile communication device a first signal comprises receiving the first signal via a wireless transmission from the supporting exchange.
- 34. (previously presented) The method of claim 28 further comprising the step of displaying indicia by the mobile communication device indicating that the latter is in a restricted use area upon receipt of the first signal from a supporting exchange representing that the mobile communication device is in the high communication traffic area.

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35. (previously presented) The method of claim 30 further comprising the step of displaying indicia by the mobile communication device indicating that the latter is in a restricted use area upon receipt of the first signal from a supporting exchange representing that the mobile communication device is in the high communication traffic area.